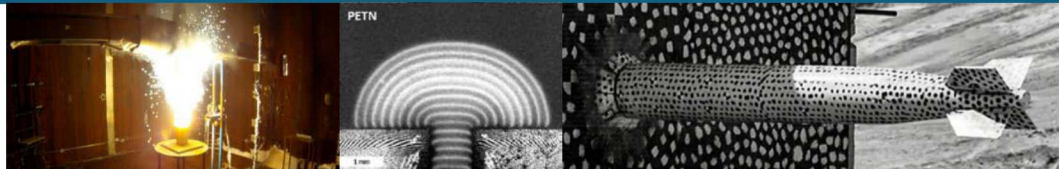


# High-Throughput Initiation: Flyer and Thin-Film Explosive Characterization



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Samuel D. Park,<sup>b</sup> Randal Schmitt, Stephen Rupper,  
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Shawn C. Stacy, Michael P. Marquez

21<sup>st</sup> Biennial Conference of the APS Topical  
Group on Shock Compression of Condensed  
Matter, Portland, OR, June 16 – 21, 2019.

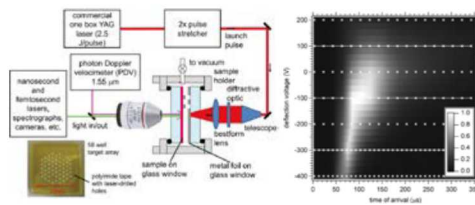
<sup>b</sup> current address: Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375

# Introduction and motivation

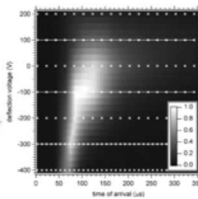
Explosive testing is expensive and time-consuming

High-throughput methods are available

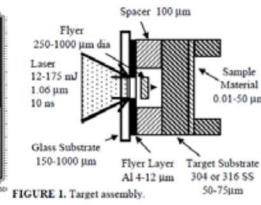
Laser-driven shock experiments allow for robotic positioning on optical axis



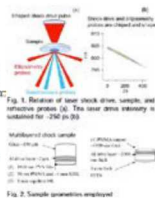
**Dlott  
(2017).**



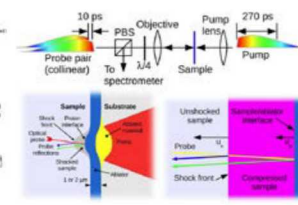
**Fossum  
(2012).**



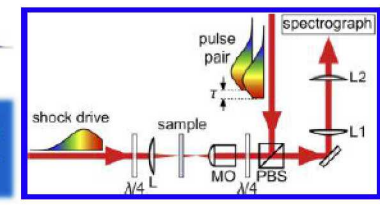
**Buelow  
(2004).**



**McGrane  
(2010).**



**Armstrong  
(2013).**



**Park (2018).**

Dlott, D. D., **Shock compression dynamics under a microscope**, AIP Conference Proceedings, (2017).

Fossum, E. C., Molek, C. D., Lewis, W. K., and Fajardo, M. E., **Benchtop Energetics: Hyperthermal Species Detection**, Propellants, Explosives, Pyrotechnics, (2012).

Buelow, S. J., Anderson, J. E., Aiken, A. C., Arrington, C. A., and Jones, B., **Mass Spectral Studies of Shocked Salts and Nitrocellulose Polymer Films**, AIP Conference Proceedings, vol. 706, no. 1, pp. 1377-1380, (2004).

McGrane, S. D., Dang, N. C., Whitley, V. H., Bolme, C. A., and Moore, D. S., **Transient absorption spectroscopy of laser shocked explosives**, 14th International Detonation Symposium, Coeur d'Alene, ID, (April 11-16, 2010).

Armstrong, M. R., Zaug, J. M., Goldman, N., Kuo, I. F. W., Crowhurst, J. C., Howard, W. M., Carter, J. A., Kashgarian, M., Chesser, J. M., Barbee, T. W., and Bastea, S., **Ultrafast Shock Initiation of Exothermic Chemistry in Hydrogen Peroxide**, The Journal of Physical Chemistry A, vol. 117, no. 49, pp. 13051-13058, (2013).

Park, S. D., Armstrong, M. R., Kohl, I. T., Zaug, J. M., Knepper, R., Tappan, A. S., Bastea, S., and Kay, J. J., **Ultrafast Shock-Induced Reactions in Pentaerythritol Tetranitrate Thin Films**, The Journal of Physical Chemistry A, vol. 122, no. 41, pp. 8101-8106, (2018).

Beppler, C. L., Hotchkiss, P. J., and Tappan, A. S., **Combinatorial, Microscale Fuel/Oxidizer Formulations for the Systematic Determination of Homemade Explosives Properties**, Sandia National Laboratories Report, SAND16-0381, (January, 2016).

# Laser-driven flyer

Continuum Powerlite Precision II 9000,  
8.9 ns, 2.5 J, pulsed Nd:YAG

- Refurbished,  $M^2$  increased

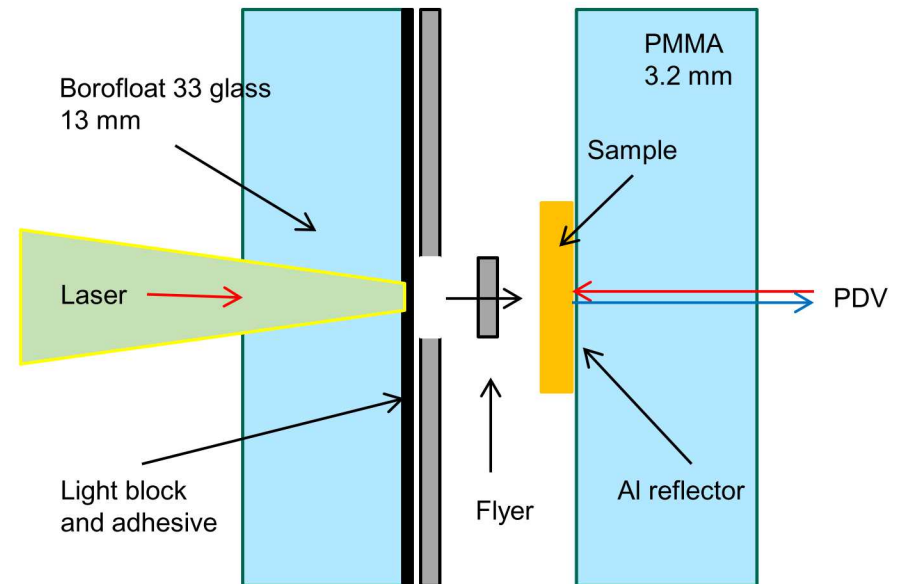
Laser driven flyer defines shock pulse  
width ( $> 25 \mu\text{m}$ ) and spot size ( $\sim 1 \text{ mm}$ )

- Material choice defines pressure

Flyer characterization with PDV

- $\sim 4000 \text{ m/s}$  to date

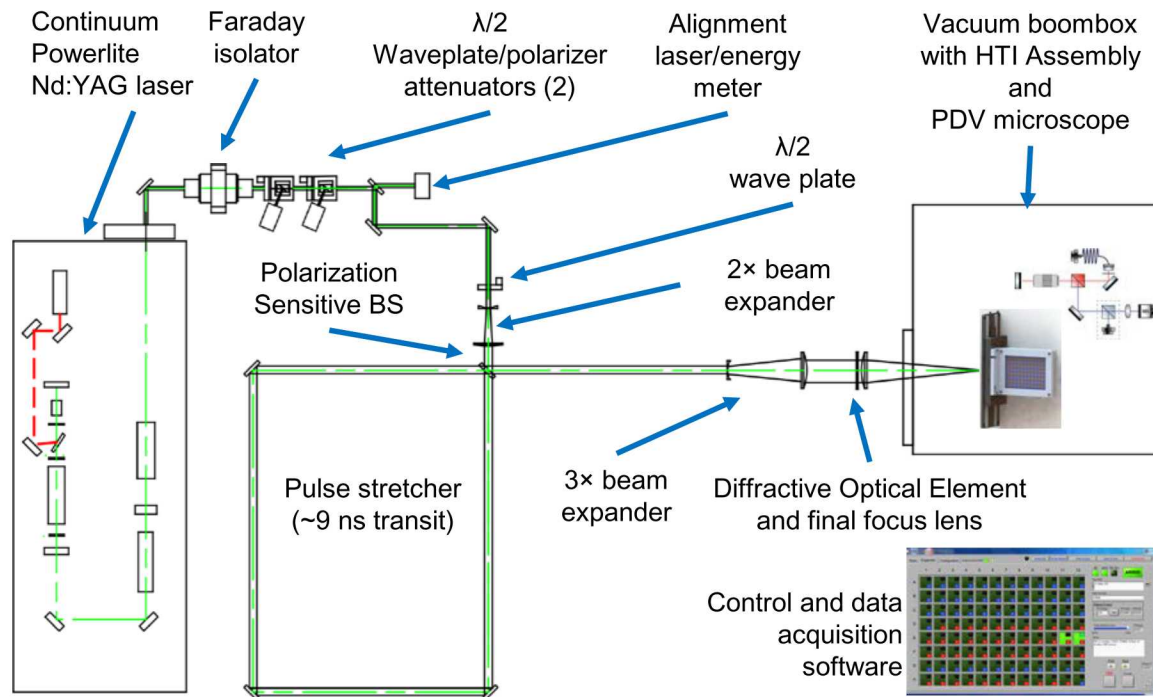
Experiment configuration based on work  
by Dana Dlott's group (UIUC)



**Cross-section cartoon of laser driven flyer used in High-Throughput Initiation experiment.**

# High-Throughput Initiation Experiment used to study shock initiation of explosives

Laser-based initiation and laser-based diagnostics allow for robotic positioning

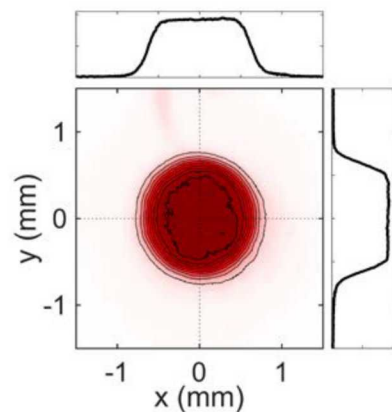


**Diagram of optical system for the High-Throughput Initiation experiment.**

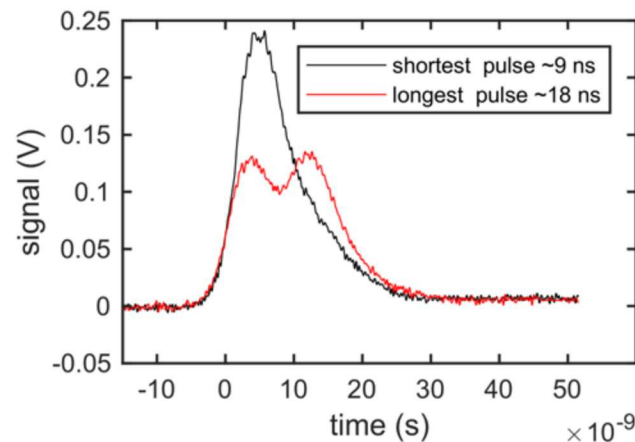
# Laser-driven flyer characterization



Launch laser beam profile (in both space and time) defines the quality of the flyer



**Beam profile of launch laser at flyer optic focus showing a high-quality 1.1 mm diameter top hat profile.**



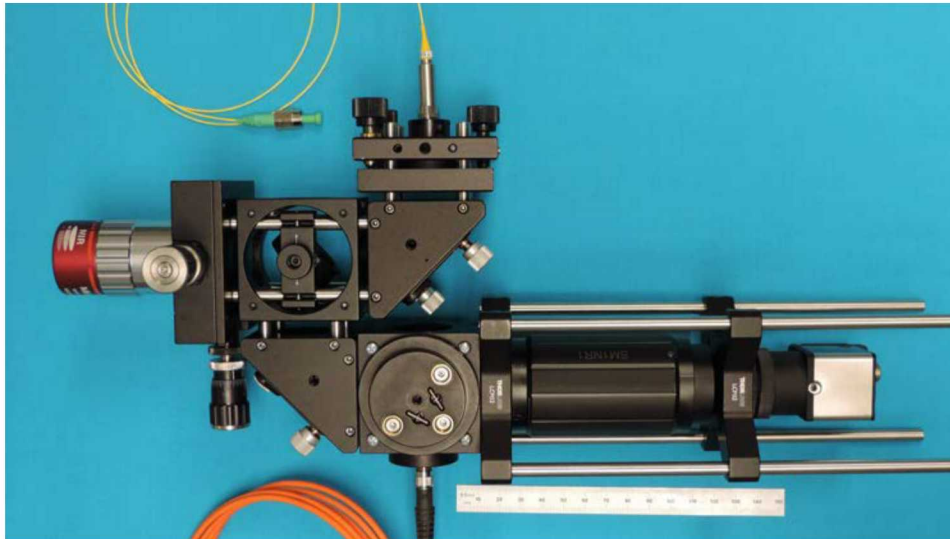
**Photodiode signal showing the launch laser pulse duration at the shortest, ~9 ns duration with the pulse stretcher blocked, and the longest, ~18 ns duration with balanced reflection/transmission at the pulse stretcher.**



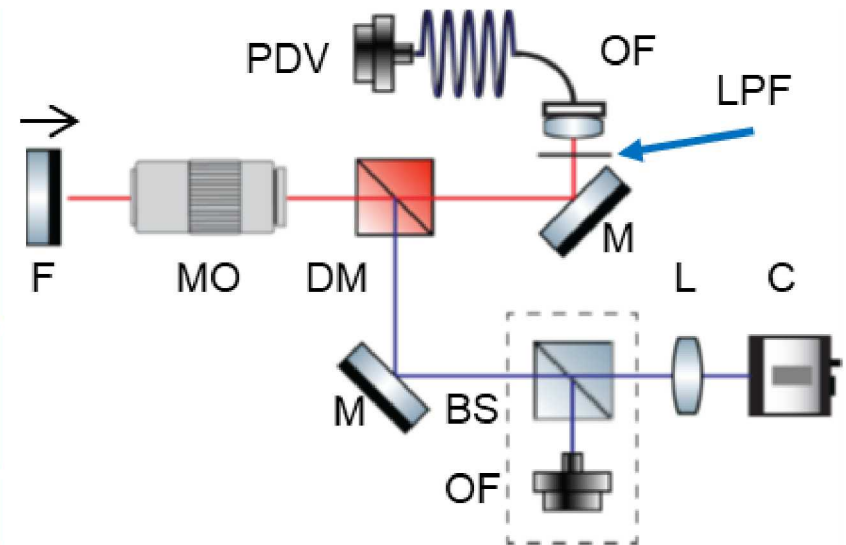
# Photonic Doppler velocimetry



The PDV microscope is the primary diagnostic for High-Throughput Initiation



**Photograph of photonic Doppler velocimetry microscope used on the High-Throughput Initiation experiment.**



**Optical diagram of the PDV microscope: F = flyer, MO = microscope objective, DM = dichroic mirror, LPF = long pass filter, OF = optical fiber, BS = visible beam splitter, L = lens, and C = camera.**



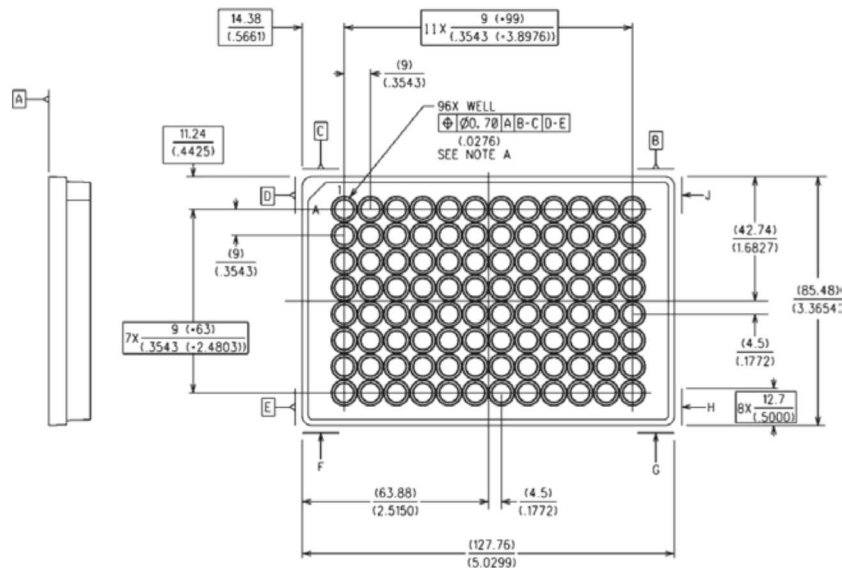
# High-Throughput Initiation Experiment – Flyer Optic

Substrate: Borofloat 33 glass, 13 mm thick

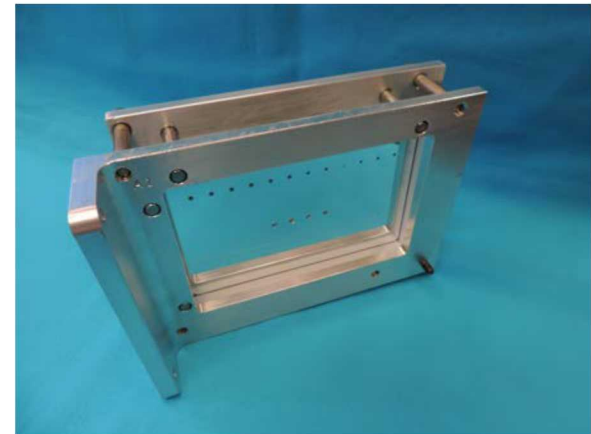
Absorber/light block: Al, 1  $\mu\text{m}$  thick

Flyer: Parylene C, 26  $\mu\text{m}$  thick

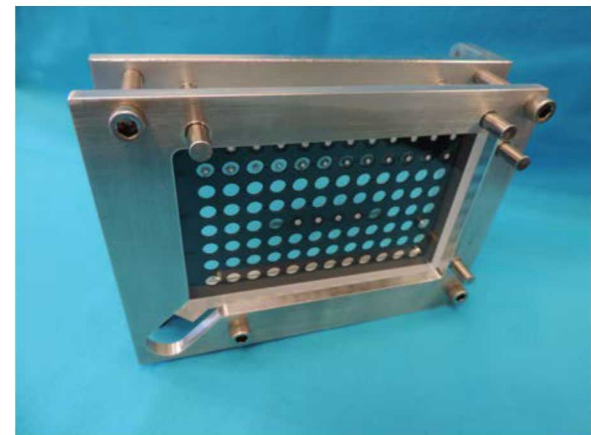
PDV reflector: Al, 50 nm



**Microplate standard geometry used for High-Throughput Initiation Experiment.**

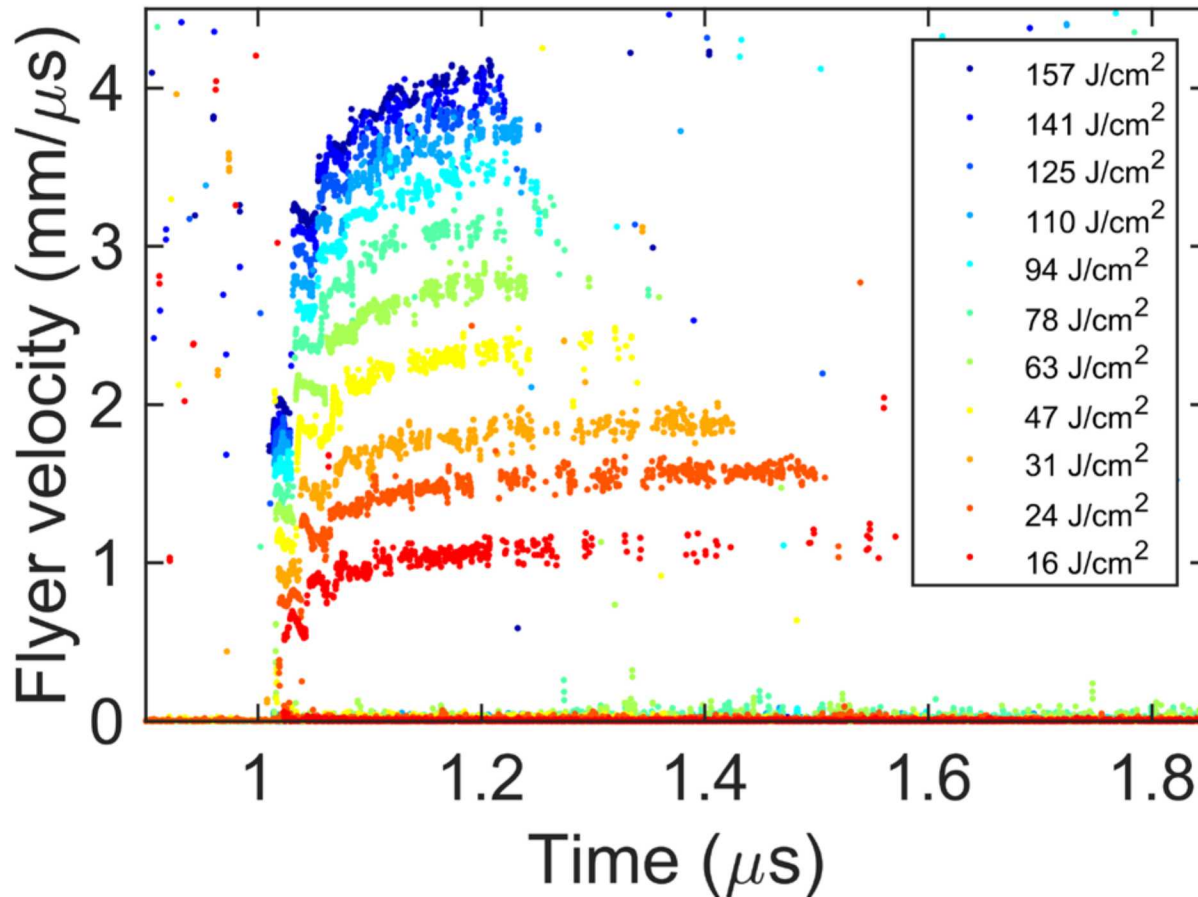


**Laser entrance side of Parylene C flyer optic in HTI assembly.**



**Flyer side of Parylene C flyer optic in HTI assembly.**

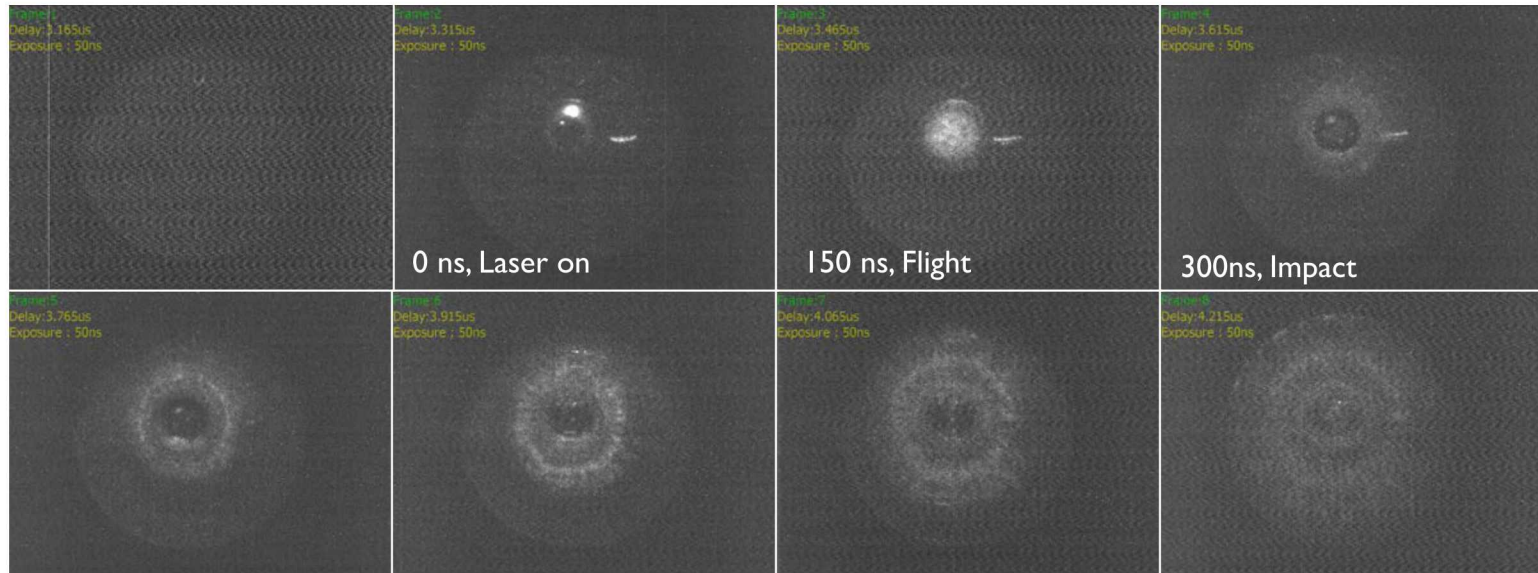
# Parylene C flyer characterization shows velocities up to 4 mm/ $\mu$ s



Velocity (PDV) versus laser fluence for Parylene C flyers.



# Parylene C flyer characterization with framing camera



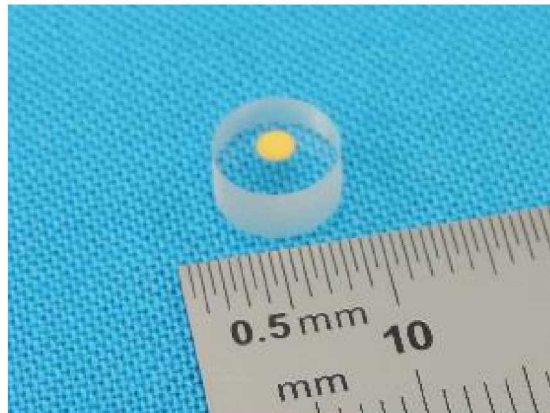
Framing camera images of Parylene C flyer launch. Images taken at 6.67 MHz (1/150 ns) with an exposure time of 50 ns. SI-LUX used for illumination with bandpass filter to reduce self-light recorded by camera. The laser can be seen in the second frame and impact occurs by the fourth.

# HNS samples made by physical vapor deposition

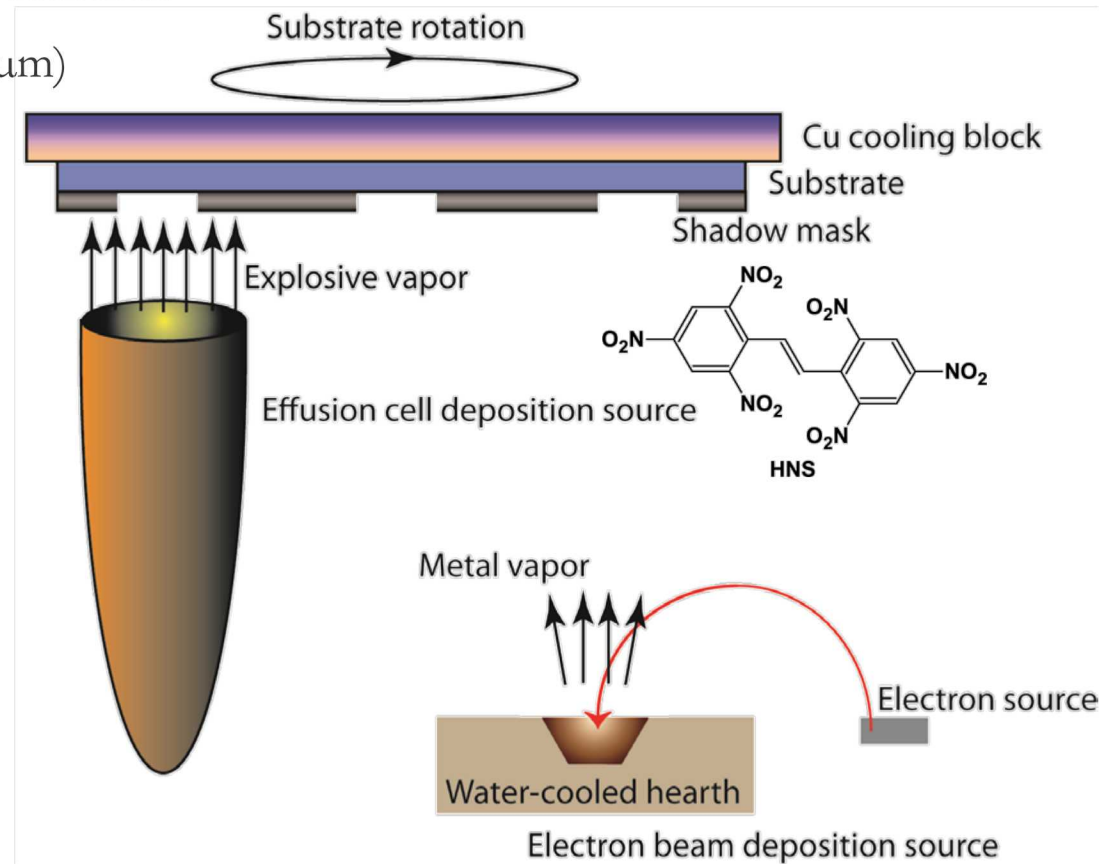
PMMA (polymethylmethacrylate) substrate

Aluminum PDV reflector ( $\sim 0.25 \mu\text{m}$ )

HNS (44, 75, 119  $\mu\text{m}$ )

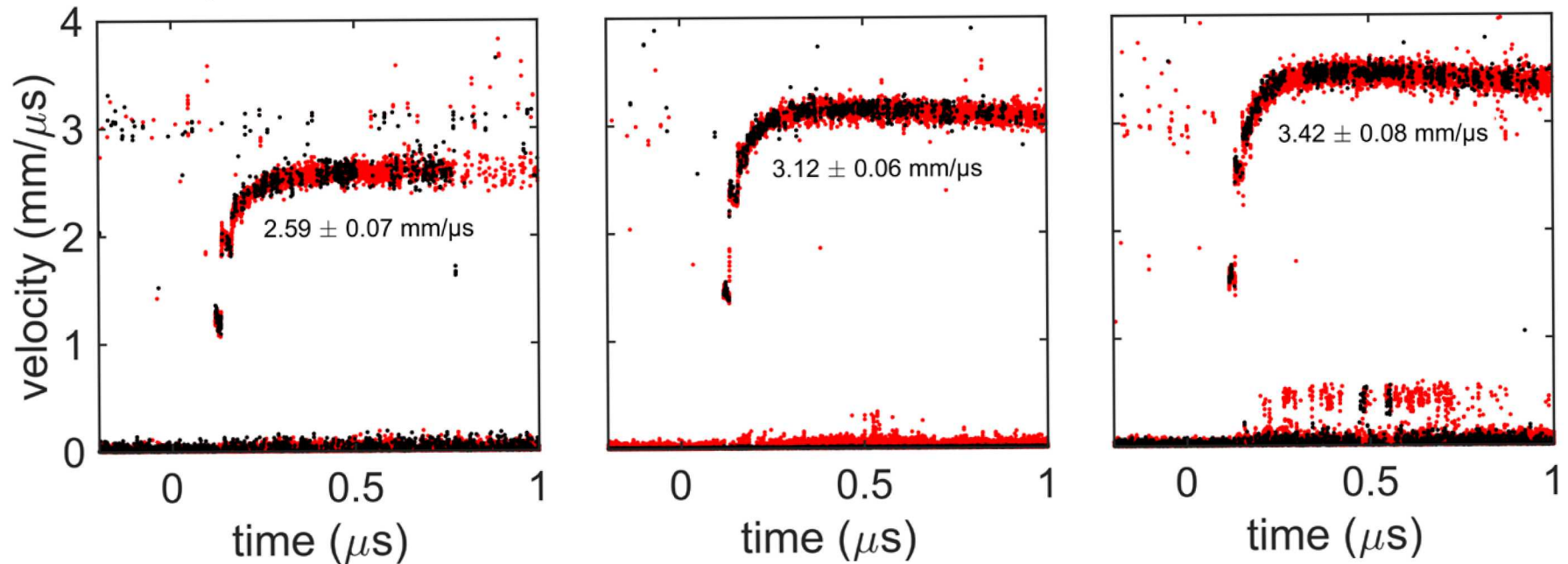


**Vapor-deposited HNS sample on 6.35 mm PMMA window.**



# Parylene C flyers launched into HNS at three velocities

Velocity measurement made at front surface of flyer

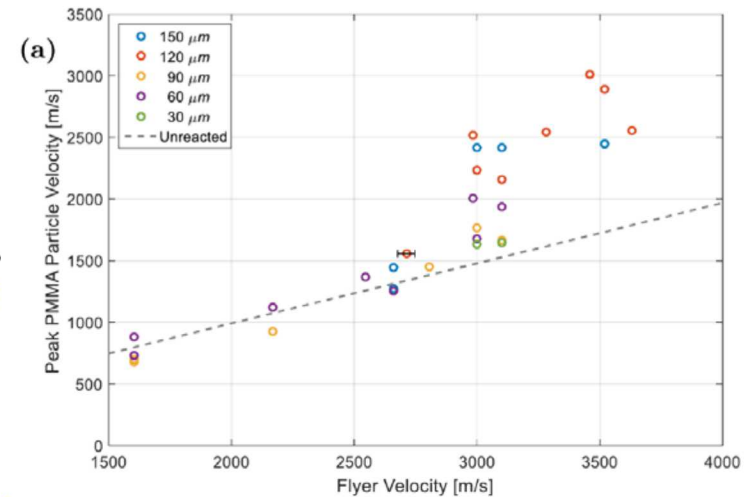
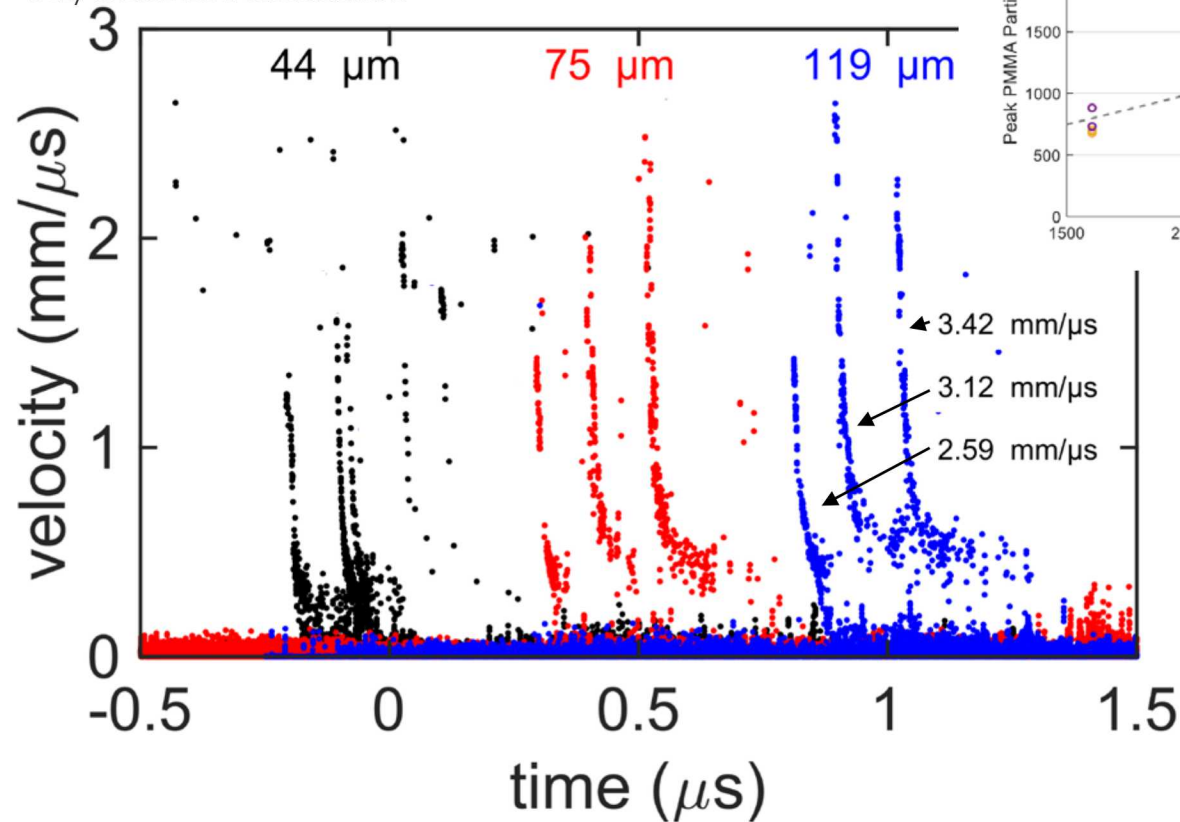


Velocity data for laser-driven Parylene C flyers launched at three fluences. Each plot has data from multiple (5 or 6) shots overlaid.



# HNS appears to be building to detonation between 75 and 119 $\mu\text{m}$

Particle velocity measurement made at Al/PMMA interface



Olles showed full detonation in 120 to 150  $\mu\text{m}$  of HNS at flyer velocities of  $\sim 3$  mm/ $\mu\text{s}$ .

Graph showing compilation of HNS initiation shots at three different thicknesses, with three different impact velocities. Plots are time-shifted for clarity.

# Conclusions

High-throughput initiation experiment developed based on microplate geometry

High-throughput initiation of HNS conducted with laser-driven Parylene C flyers

HNS appears to be building to detonation between 75 and 119  $\mu\text{m}$

Future work:

- Thicker aluminum PDV reflector
- Other materials





# Acknowledgements

Carlos Rodriguez, Kevin Prudic, Adrian L. Casias, Amanda Nicole Dean, and Benjamin J. Hanks

- Mechanical design and fabrication

Michael Marquez, Caitlin O'Grady, Jon Vasiliauskas, James Erickson, Robert Knepper

- Sample preparation, characterization

Stephen Rupper, Randy Schmitt, Mark Johnson, Sam Park, Ian Kohl

- Optical design/implementation

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- Technical discussions

J. Patrick Ball and Chris Colburn

- PDV

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Daniel D. Lanterman, Taylor T. Young (NSWC, Indian Head)

Steven Dean and Jennifer Gottfried (ARL)

Leanna Minier

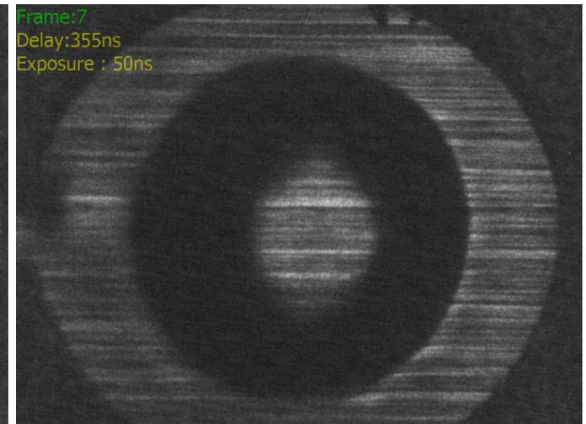
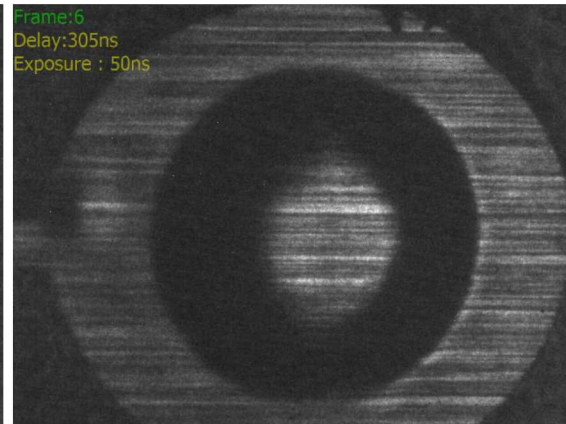
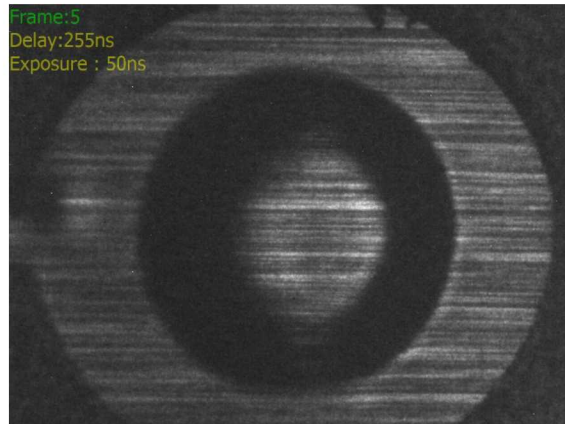
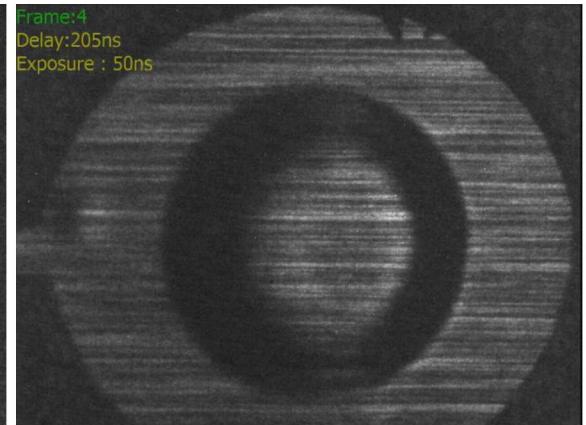
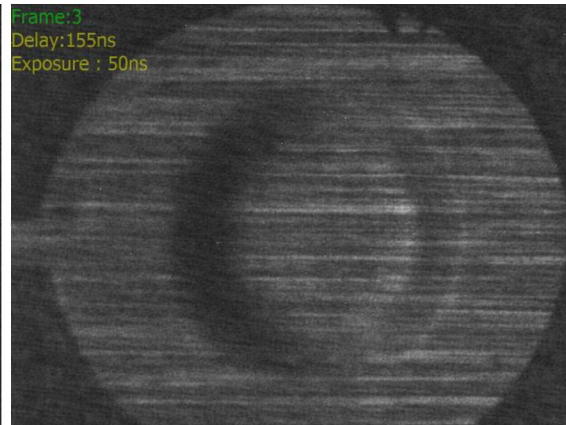
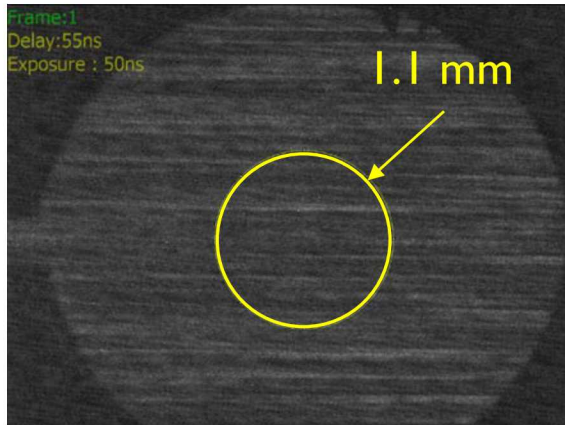
This work was supported in part by the Joint Department of Defense/Department of Energy Munitions Technology Development Program as well as Sandia's Laboratory Directed Research and Development program.

## Backup slides



# Framing camera images of laser-driven flyer (Aluminum)

Flyer launch appears to be planar and circular



**Framing camera images of laser-driven flyer launch into the camera using a 50 ns exposure at 20 MHz (1/50 ns).**

# Flyer characterization (aluminum flyers)

Measurement of pulse duration ( $\tau$ ) as a function of Al foil thickness

- 25.4  $\mu\text{m}$ ,  $<3$  ns
- 38.1  $\mu\text{m}$ , 5.8 – 7.0 ns

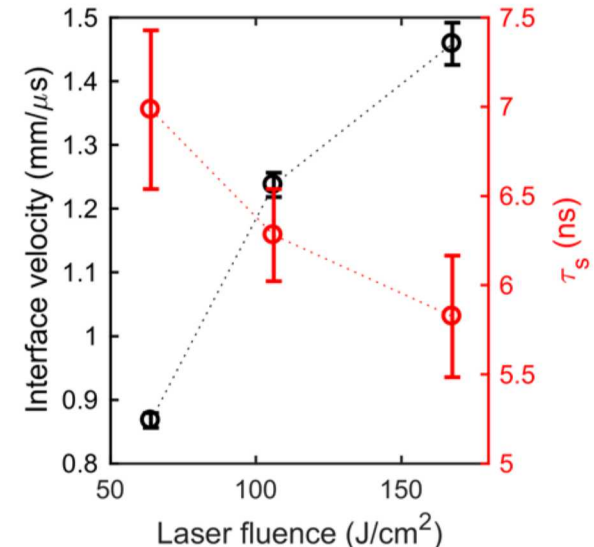
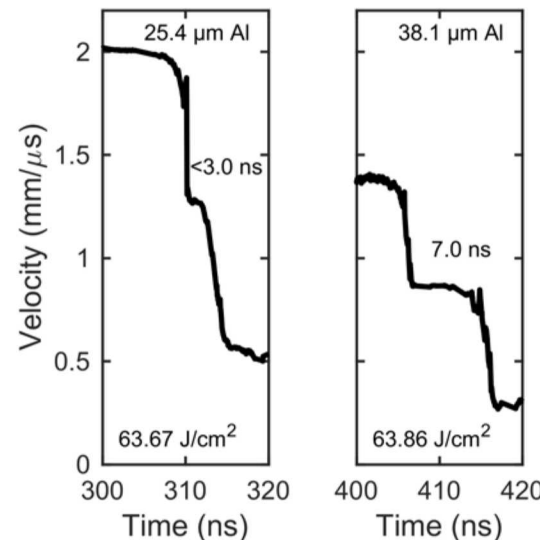
Fluence: 64 J/cm<sup>2</sup>

Particle velocity increases with fluence

Pulse width decreases with fluence

Impedance matching:

4.0, 6.6, and 8.4 GPa in PMMA



**Velocity versus time data for shocks driven into PMMA by laser-driven aluminum flyers with thicknesses of 25.4  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $<3.0$  ns) and 38.1  $\mu\text{m}$  (7.0 ns).**

**Velocity versus launch laser fluence shows increase in the flyer-PMMA interface velocity with increasing fluence, and therefore flyer velocity. The pulse duration ( $\tau$ ) shown on the right axis decreases with increasing fluence.**

# HNS sample thicknesses

